The Reading and Writing Project

Some recommended nonfiction journals and online sites that may help you expand your access to complex nonfiction. The online sites provide access to a wide range of educational videos and databases. The journals often provide access to the online archive as well as multiple classroom copies. We’ve listed the journals in an order that is loosely from easier to more challenging. We’re always on the alert for journals that are print rich, and digital sites that are engaging, informative, and challenging. Let us know if you recommend others.

Sites for Digital Texts:

http://www.nypl.org/
The NYC Public Library site. Access ‘research’ and choose from online databases, such as Amazing Animals of the World, and Historical Newspapers, and a digital archive of historical photographs.

http://dsc.discovery.com
The Discovery Channel site. This site gives you access to educational videos and interactive websites. For instance, for interactive global warming and weather issues, look at:
http://dsc.discovery.com/tv/project-earth/project-earth.html

http://www.timeforkids.com
Provides accessible digital texts, including videos of current news in science, sports, entertainment, and world events.

http://video.pbs.org/
Watch award-winning documentaries, including current episodes from Nova and Nature, as well as archived videos.

http://www.history.com
Video clips and full length shows on history topics from Ancient China to the Vikings to Watergate.

http://www.nationalgeographic.com/
Visit the home page, the video selection, or the ‘kids’ section, for a wide range of educational digital texts.

Nonfiction Journals That are Particularly Print-Rich, Include Complex Texts, and Are Engaging:

Click – introduces fascinating science topics (grades K-2)

Ranger Rick – includes several-page spreads on an endangered animal or other natural science topic (grades 2-4)

Zoobooks – these expository books are each dedicated to a single animal (grades 3-8)

Cobblestone – focuses on American history (grades 5-7)

Dig – Archaeology for kids, grades 5-7. Each issue is themed (grades 4-8)

National Geographic for Kids – comes in two levels (grades 1-3 and grades 4-6)

Sports Illustrated for Kids – covers issues, players, and teams, with an emphasis on achievement stories (grades 3-6)

Junior Scholastic – provides coverage of current news issues and investigative journalism (grades 4-7)

Upfront – the New York Times Magazine for teens. Focuses on investigative journalism (grades 7-12)

Sports Illustrated – consistently winning awards for investigative journalism (grades 6-12)

http://www.readingandwritingproject.com